

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: July 19, 2006

Division: Growth Management

Bulk Item: Yes X No

Department: Administration

Staff Contact Person: Beth Bergh

AGENDA ITEM WORDING:

Approval of a grant task assignment with Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to receive a \$60,000 grant for the removal of invasive exotic plant species from conservation lands that are owned or managed by Monroe County.

ITEM BACKGROUND:

Monroe County has been awarded grant funds for invasive exotic plant removal from FDEP through the Florida Keys Invasive Exotics Task Force. This grant is for the State's FY 06-07 and is intended to build on the success of the FY 05-06 Monroe County grant that enabled the County to hire contractors to perform exotic removal on 43 parcels. The local match for the grant will be in the form of the Land Steward's time, use of Public Works' equipment and dump fees.

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOCC ACTION:

February 18, 2004 – Approval of 10 year FDEP contract PL-029 for funding to remove invasive exotic plant species.

September 21, 2005 – Approval of Task Assignment FK-061 under FDEP contract PL-029 which provided the County with \$30,000 to contract removal of invasive exotic plant species from County conservation lands. This task assignment ended June 15, 2006.

CONTRACT/AGREEMENT CHANGES:

Relative to last year's task assignment, the grant award for this task assignment has increased from \$30,000 to \$60,000.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval

TOTAL COST: \$81,300 (grant + local match) **BUDGETED:** Yes X No
Growth Manage. Salary &
COST TO COUNTY: \$21,300 (local match) **SOURCE OF FUNDS:** Env. Restoration Fund

REVENUE PRODUCING: Yes No X **AMOUNT PER MONTH** **Year**

APPROVED BY: County Atty. X OMB/Purchasing X Risk Management X

DIVISION DIRECTOR APPROVAL:

Ty Symroski 6/30/2-0
Ty Symroski

DOCUMENTATION: Included X Not Required

DISPOSITION: **AGENDA ITEM #**

MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

CONTRACT SUMMARY

Contract with: FDEP Contract # PL029
 Effective Date: _____
 Expiration Date: _____

Contract Purpose/Description:

Task Assignment # FK - 073. Contracted removal of non-native, invasive plant species from publicly owned conservation lands in Monroe County.

Contract Manager: Beth Bergh 2511 Growth Management / 11
 (Name) (Ext.) (Department/Stop #)

for BOCC meeting on July 19, 2006 Agenda Deadline: July 5, 2006

CONTRACT COSTS

Total Dollar Value of Contract: \$ 60,000 Current Year Portion: \$ _____
 Budgeted? Yes ☒ No ☐ Account Codes: 125-52003-530490- -530310
 Grant: \$ 60,000 _____
 County Match: \$ 21,300 (in kind) _____

ADDITIONAL COSTS

Estimated Ongoing Costs: \$ _____/yr For: _____
 (Not included in dollar value above) (eg. maintenance, utilities, janitorial, salaries, etc.)

CONTRACT REVIEW

| | Date In | Changes Needed | Reviewer | Date Out |
|-------------------|-----------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Division Director | <u>6/30/2-6</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>T. J. [Signature]</u> | <u>6/30/2-6</u> |
| Risk Management | <u>6-28-06</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>M. [Signature]</u> | <u>6-28-06</u> |
| O.M.B./Purchasing | <u>6-28-06</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>[Signature]</u> | <u>6/28/06</u> |
| County Attorney | <u>6/28/06</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>[Signature]</u> | <u>6/28/06</u> |

Comments: _____

TASK ASSIGNMENT NOTIFICATION FORM
DEP CONTRACT NO. PL-029

Task Assignment Number: **FK-073**

Date: June 7, 2006

Contractor Name: Monroe County
Contractor's Contract Manager: Elizabeth Bergh (305) 852-2511

DEP Contract Manager: Greg Jubinsky 850-488-5631
DEP Site Manager: Jackie Smith 561-791-4720

Project Title: Monroe County Australian Pine 06-07

MA ID#:

Task Description and Payment Schedule: Exhibit 1 describes the scope of work for this project. The Contractor is not authorized to perform work on any additional sites until such time as the DEP and the Contractor have fully executed a Change Order for said additional work. Any work performed by the Contractor contrary to this Task Assignment shall be at the Contractors expense.

Task Assignment Conditions and Deliverables:

1. Control is defined as treatment effective in preventing re-sprout of treated target vegetation.
2. If 95% kill rate is not achieved for any area of the project after two months following project completion, one additional thorough treatment of the plant will be the responsibility of the contractor at no cost to the contracting entities.
3. The Contractor shall notify the designated site manager prior to entering the work-site.
4. The Contractor shall provide written notification to the Contract Manager upon completion of treatment event(s).
5. Upon Site Manager approval, the Contractor is authorized to control incidental occurrences of any current EPPC category one or category two invasive exotic plant species encountered within the Project Site(s). Costs for these control operations shall not exceed the established Task Assignment amount, and must not jeopardize the Contractor's ability to achieve the required level of control for the primary target species. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to determine that all control operations do not exceed the established Task Assignment amount.

Task Assignment Start Date: **July 1, 2006**

Final Treatment Completion Date: **June 15, 2007**

Task Assignment Type:

Amount Not To Exceed:

Cost Reimbursement

\$60,000.00

Total Task Assignment Value

\$60,000.00

Funding Information:

| Org. Code | E.O. | Object Code | Fund | Spec. Cat. | Project # | Year | Amount |
|---------------|------|-------------|------|------------|-----------|-------|-------------|
| 3710-2800-222 | Q7 | 139904 | | 102334 | 029FK073 | 06-07 | \$60,000.00 |
| 37 | | | | | | | \$ |

MONROE COUNTY

FL DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Contract Manager

Date

Greg Jubinsky, Contract Manager

6/12/06
Date

Department Director

Date

Cost Center Administrator

6/13/06
Date

MONROE COUNTY ATTORNEY
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

NATILEENE W. CASSEL

ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY

Date 6/28/06

William Torres, Bureau Chief

6/14/06
Date

Division of State Lands

6/15/06
Date

cc: Gwenn Godfrey, Contracts Office (MS93)
Contracts Disbursements Section (MS78)

TASK ASSIGNMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CONTRACTOR:

1. Upon full execution of the Task Assignment, the Contractor will coordinate with the DEP Site Manager to establish a mutually agreeable work schedule.
2. A Ground Crew Supervisor, employed by the Contractor, will be present at all times when work on the site is underway;
3. Ground Crew Supervisors will be responsible for all control activities and safety on project sites. The Ground Crew Supervisor will assure contract crews are knowledgeable of, and remain within property and treatment boundaries. Every effort shall be made by the Contractor to avoid damage to native vegetation and wildlife;
4. Ground Crew Supervisors will be pesticide applicators possessing current certification by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) in the Forestry or Right-of-Way categories. A copy of each supervisor's FDACS certification will be provided to the DEP Site Manager prior to initiation of on-site supervisory duties;
5. The Ground Crew Supervisor may supervise a maximum of eight (8) field employees at any given time, unless otherwise noted in the Task Assignment;
6. The Ground Crew Supervisor shall be responsible for the collection, recording, and timely submission of all data and reports required. At weekly intervals and at the completion of initial treatments and site reassessment, a complete report will be submitted to the Site Manager detailing sites treated, number and size of plants killed, and type of treatment used. This data will be recorded on the DEP "Daily Progress Report Form".
7. The Contractor will strictly adhere to all herbicide label application, precautionary, and safety statements;
8. All control efforts (except cogon grass treatment) shall be at least 95% effective in preventing re-sprout of treated target vegetation. If 95% kill rate is not achieved for any area of the project after two months following project completion, one additional thorough treatment of the plant species listed under "Project Goals" in the project area will be the responsibility of the Contractor at no cost to the DEP;
9. Cogan grass treatments shall be 100% effective in killing above ground portions (top kill) of target vegetation. If 100% top kill rate is not achieved for any area of the project after 30 days following project completion, one additional thorough treatment of the plant species listed under "Project Goals" in the project area will be the responsibility of the Contractor at no cost to the DEP;
10. The Contractor shall forward an original invoice along with all corresponding Daily Progress Report Forms, completed and approved, to the Bureau of Invasive Plant Management, 3915 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 710, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000 within ten (10) working days of work completion;

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEP SITE MANAGER:

1. The Site Manager reserves the right to inspect, at any time, the Contractor's procedure, spray system(s), spray solution(s), and other ancillary equipment, and to approve operating personnel. Inspection, however, will not relieve the Contractor of any obligations or responsibilities nor will it transfer any liability to the lands listed under "Project Location.";
2. No additional work can be added to this Task Assignment without a fully executed Change Order. Additional work includes additional treatment areas or change in treatment methodology.
3. The site management agency authorizes Bureau of Invasive Plant Management staff to approve invoice payments of all funds encumbered under this Task Assignment. Payment will be approved only for that work approved by the Site Manager. A copy of the approved invoice will be forwarded to the site management agency.

**Project Title: Monroe County Invasive Exotic Plant Control
Contractor Grant Australian Pine (2006-2007)**

Working Group: Florida Keys Invasive Exotic Plant Working Group

Site Manager: Elizabeth Bergh
Monroe County Land Steward
2798 Overseas Highway
Marathon, Florida 33050-2227
Phone: (305) 289-2511
Cell: (305) 304-4442
Email: bergh-beth@monroecounty-fl.gov

Grant Type: ~~Fixed Price~~ Cost Reimbursement BB 6-26-06

Project Goal: The project goal is the eradication of non-native invasive Australian pine (I, II - *Casuarina* spp.), Brazilian Pepper (I - *Shinus terebithifolius*), and other Category I invasive species from publicly owned conservation lands in Monroe County.

Project Description This project will build on the success of the 2005-2006 Monroe County grant by having the County hire DEP-approved contractors to remove non-native invasive Australian pine (I, II - *Casuarina* spp.), Brazilian Pepper (I - *Shinus terebithifolius*), and other Category I invasive species as authorized by the Site Manager from publicly owned conservation lands in Monroe County. The project will remove stands of exotic vegetation that are either too large or located too close to improvements (such as power lines, roads, and houses) to be safely removed by the Land Steward and Invasive Exotic Plant Control Technicians.

Project Location Lands in this project will consist of public conservation lands located throughout the Florida Keys either owned or managed by Monroe County (as the Board of County Commissioners or the Land Authority). Monroe County owns approximately 2,000 acres of scattered conservation lands throughout the Florida Keys. The focus for the 2005-2006 project was the Middle and Lower Keys, where conservation lands in Center Island subdivision on Duck Key and Eden Pines Colony subdivision on Big Pine Key were treated. The 2006-2007 project will target sites within the remaining untreated conservation lands owned or managed by the County in the Lower, Middle, and Upper Keys identified below.

Upper Keys

North Key Largo
Key Largo
Tavernier
Plantation Key
Upper Matecumbe

Middle Keys

Long Key
Duck Key
Grassy Key
Crawl Key
Fat Deer Key

Lower Keys

No Name Key
Big Pine Key
Big, Middle, and Little Torch Keys
Ramrod Key
Summerland Key
Cudjoe and Sugarloaf Keys
Big Coppitt Key
Boca Chica Key
Key West

Exhibit 1

Most individual parcels are only 0.1 acre in size, but many are contiguous and combine to form much larger management units. All properties are public lands that Monroe County intends to manage in perpetuity for conservation and natural resource protection.

Represented in these conservation lands are coastal beaches, buttonwood associations, rockland and maritime hammocks, and pine rockland. These areas provide habitat and resources for a myriad of wildlife, resident and migratory birds, and endemic plant species. The non-native plants that invade these areas decrease habitat value and lower biodiversity. Just a few of the state and federally listed endangered and threatened species of animals and plants that utilize these habitats include: green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*), eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*), key mud turtle (*Kinosternon baurii*), piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*), whitecrowned pigeon (*Columba leucocephala*), Key Largo cotton mouse (*Peromyscus gossypinus allapaticola*), Lower Keys rabbit (*Sylvilagus palustris hefneri*), Key deer (*Odocoileus virginianus clavium*), Blodgett's wild mercury (*Argythamnia blodgettii*), locustberry (*Byrsonima lucida*), silver palm (*Coccothrinax argentata*), and Garber's spurge (*Chamaesyce garberi*).

Proposed Budget The proposed budget for the project is as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Grant Funds Requested: | \$60,000 |
| (10 acres at @ \$6,000.00 per acre) | |

In-Kind Match:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Project Administration | \$5,300 |
| (4 hrs/week for 32 weeks | |
| @ \$28.73/hr + 44% in benefits) | |
| Public Works Equipment and Dump Fees | \$16,000 |
| Total In-Kind Match: | \$21,300 |
| (33% of Grant Funds Requested) | |

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Project Total: | \$81,300 |
| (Grant Funds + In-Kind Match) | |

Work Specifications The contractor will remove the exotic vegetation from designated conservation lands under the direction of the Monroe County Land Steward and in cooperation with the Exotic Plant Control Technicians. Work performance will consist of the contractor furnishing all labor, herbicides, diluents, small equipment, transportation, spray equipment, etc. and all operations necessary to control the exotic vegetation as described in the Project Goals section. Monroe County Public Works will provide heavy equipment (clam truck, dump truck, etc.) as required to remove and dispose of large stump pieces and to coordinate pine mulch removal.

Daily work logs recording date, name of site, and hours of work along with other data will be maintained by the Land Steward. Monroe County will submit invoices to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Bureau of Invasive Plants, for subcontract reimbursement for activities based on the work logs.

Exhibit 1

The exotic vegetation will be removed and stump treated according to developed effective control techniques. The vegetation will be chipped on site and either distributed on site in an environmentally appropriate manner or removed from the site. Decisions regarding specific plant treatment methods on each site will be approved by the Land Steward. Most treatment sites are expected to naturally re-vegetate with native species without artificial seeding or planting. However, severely degraded sites (such as sites with a thick mat of acidic pine needles) and those with distant native seed sources will be followed up with site preparation and planting of natives with funding from Monroe County's Environmental Land Management and Restoration Fund. Every effort shall be made by the contractor to avoid damaging native vegetation or disturbing wildlife.

Data Collection The Land Steward will be responsible for overseeing contractors and conducting field work and keeping daily work logs. Work logs will record date, morning and afternoon weather conditions, name of site, specific location on site, hours of work, species treated, estimates of species abundance in each work location, treatment method, herbicide, concentration, and amount applied. Logs will be used for final report preparation and will be monitored by entering spatial information with attributes into a GIS database to track management activities on all county-owned conservation lands.

Public Education/Outreach The Land Steward will coordinate discussions with neighbors and neighborhood associations prior to contractor work to explain the purpose and importance of the work. The Land Steward will work in partnership with the TNC Green Sweep program, which has been effective in fostering awareness of the invasive exotic plant problem and recruiting adjacent private landowners to allow volunteer exotic plant eradication efforts on their property.

Project Time Frame The project will begin as soon as funding is available and conclude by June 15, 2007, with the Monroe County Land Steward providing a comprehensive final report to accompany the final invoice for cost reimbursement to the FDEP Bureau of Invasive Plants no later than June 30, 2007. Due to weather constraints, it is envisioned that most of the work will occur during the eight-month period from October to June.

Exhibit 1

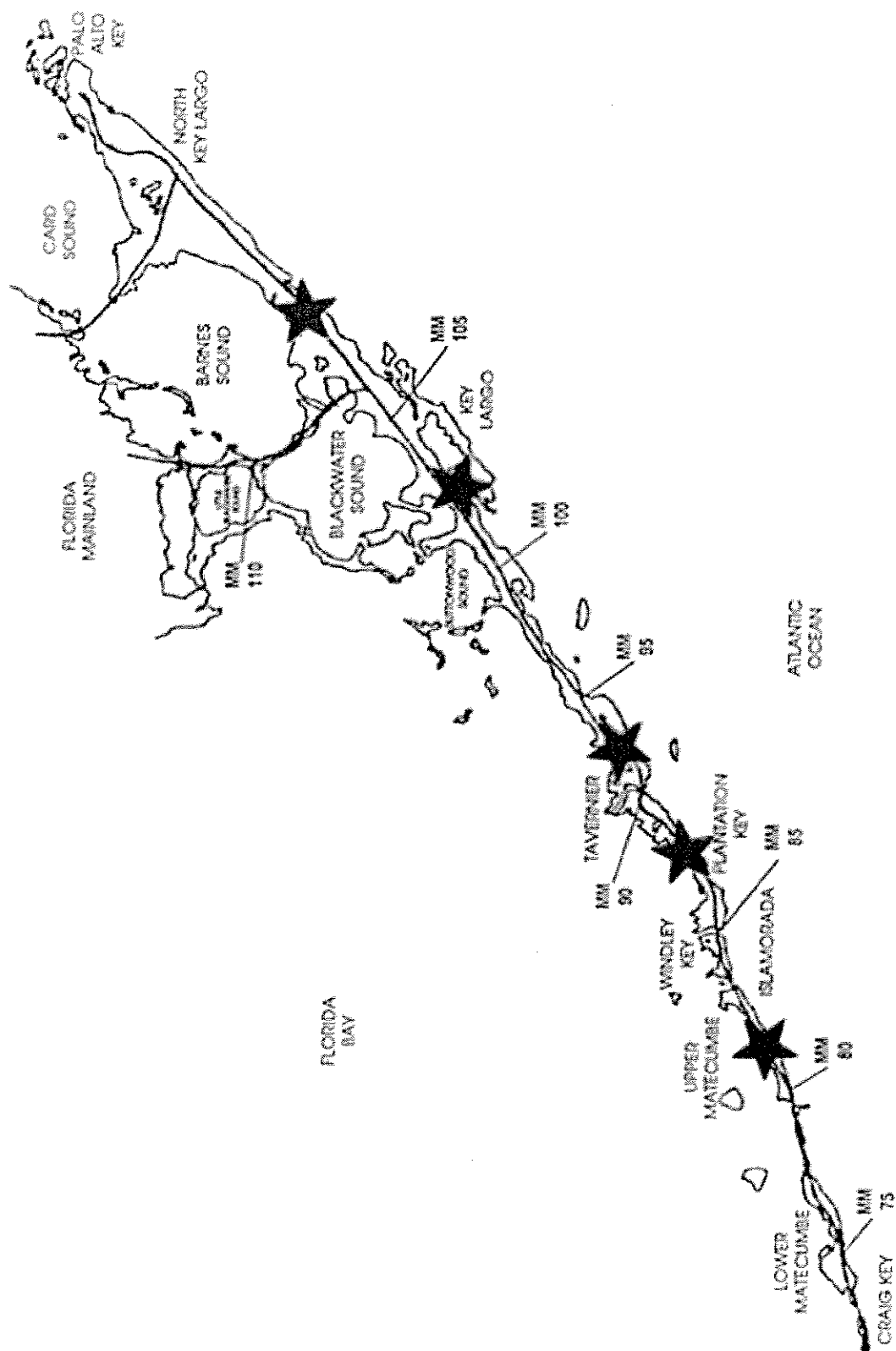


Exhibit 1

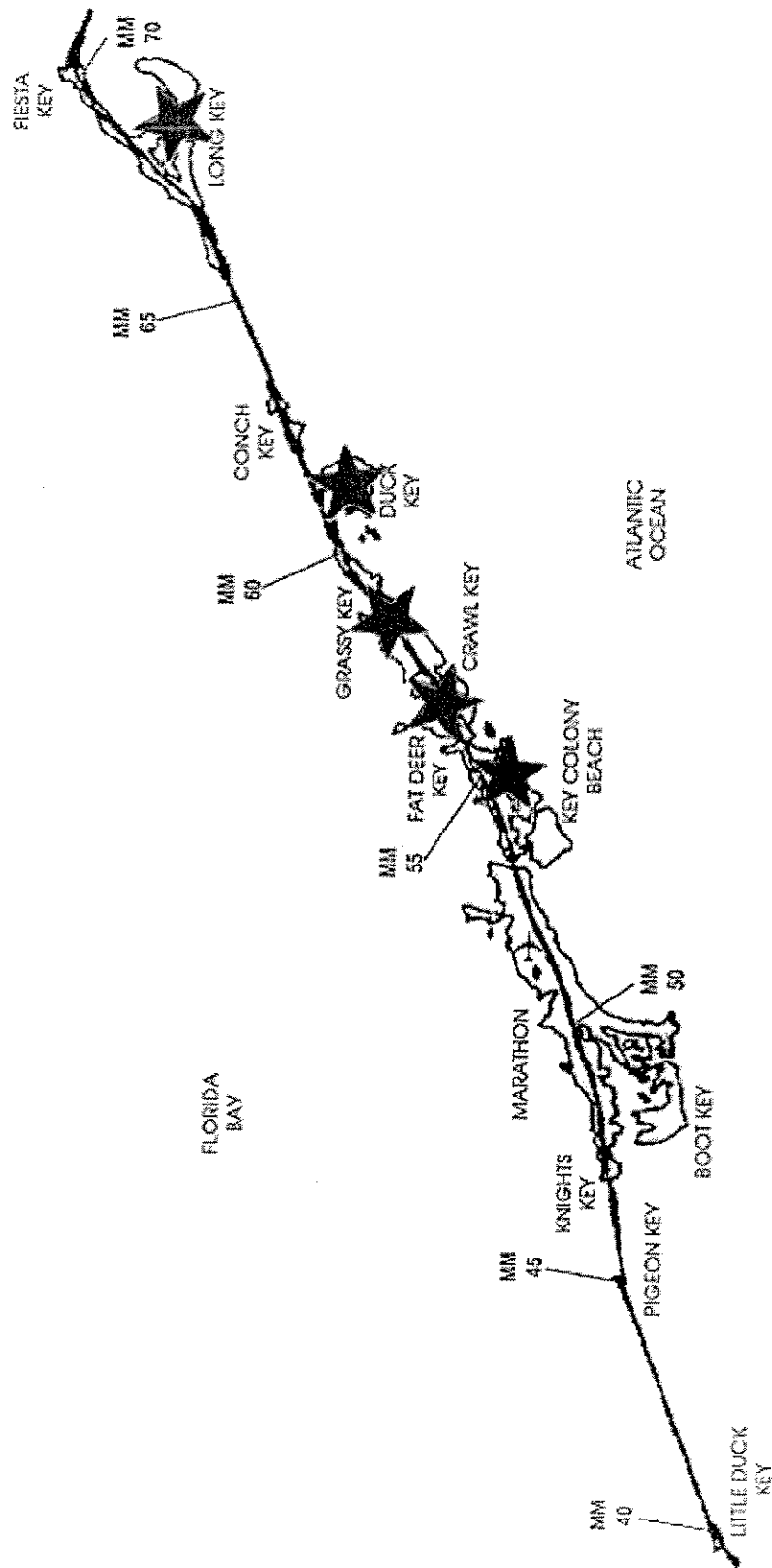


Exhibit 1

